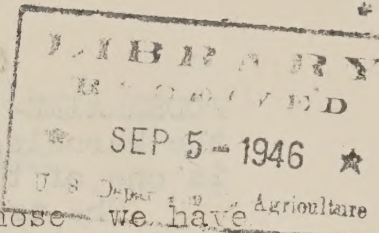


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BENTON & SMITH NUT TREE NURSERY - Wassail,
 DESCRIPTION AND PRICE LIST 1945-46. N.Y.



Our policy is to carry as standard varieties only those we have grown here and which have fruited, proving that they are adapted to this locality and latitude, or those varieties which have their origin in such locations as to make us very sure that they will mature their fruit here and that the trees will prove hardy here. We also honor the findings of the variety tests at Cornell University, as they are situated somewhat farther north than we are.

We also plan to keep abreast of the development of northern nut growing, from time to time adding to our list such of the very best varieties as prove adaptable to this latitude (41°45'N. Lat.). We will occasionally have extra trees of varieties which we will advocate only for more southern locations, until they have proven themselves here, or for those who are collecting various varieties for testing.

We will fill orders in the order in which we receive them and as our stock of many varieties is very limited, we advise ordering early. We will hold trees until you desire delivery, thus you may avoid disappointment.

Our trees this year average somewhat larger than those we offered last season. This is because they are on two year old stocks while the trees last year were mostly on one year old stocks. While we prefer the younger stocks, it is hard for us to secure a good supply of nuts for planting, except every other year.

Grafting conditions were very poor this past Spring so we have far fewer trees than we should have. However the grafts that did live have grown very well so that we have a very nice lot of trees this season.

In case we do not have the size of tree you order we will ship the next smaller size, but will charge you only for the size shipped or will refund the difference if tree is already paid for. If we do not have a smaller tree but do have a larger one we will ship this, charging only for the size ordered.

We have found it necessary to advance our prices somewhat, because, as we expand, our expenses become greater, also we will have to hire more help in the future. We still consider our prices low, when compared with other ornamental nursery stock, most of which has no value beyond its ornamental value.

HEARTNUTS.

The heartnut, at least the varieties we have under test, have passed the test of hardiness with flying colors. They not only were uninjured by the cold of February 16th, 1943 (-34°F.) but they blossomed and fruited normally the following Summer.

Please do not confuse the freezing of new foliage of any nut trees, with lack of hardiness. After many years observations the writer has become convinced that none of the walnuts and hickories have any degree of hardiness against frost injury to young foliage by late freezes in the Spring. Our native wild hickories, butternuts and black walnuts will suffer just as badly as the heartnuts or Persian walnuts if growing in an equally exposed location. Such frost injury may destroy the nut crop but, unless repeated two or more times as the tree sends out more new leaves, usually does no permanent injury.

FODERMAIER- The nut of this variety is of good size, cracks easily, the kernels in large part coming out in whole halves. In flavor it is one of the very best. Ripens here in late September.

The tree grows rapidly, bears annually and in the winter of 1933-34 the parent tree withstood temperatures of -30 to -34° F. without any apparent injury, this coupled with the February 16th, 1943 test of several grafts of this variety should quite definitely establish it's hardiness. We have some very fine trees but none over 4 to 5 ft. size.

WRIGHT- We consider this variety equal in nut to the Fodermaier and is described by Mr. Reed of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as being one of the very best. Rapid grower, tree very hardy showing quite definite signs of being even more hardy than Fodermaier. As it ripens it's nuts early it should be a good variety for the Far North, possibly anywhere in the U. S. Ripens in mid September here. We have very good trees of this variety but none over 4 to 5 ft. size.

The Wright and Fodermaier blossom at the right times to act as pollinizers for each other. Heartnuts will be pollinized by butternut if growing in the same locality.

GELLATLY- This variety originated in British Columbia and has proven itself to be hardy here, standing the -34°F. of February 16th, 1943 without any injury at all. The nut is large, being only slightly smaller than Fodermaier, it cracks perfectly and is of good quality. It ripens here in late September. We have very good trees of this variety but none over 4 to 5 ft. size.

WALTERS- We know less about this variety than about the foregoing varieties. The tree proved hardy in the February 16, 1943 cold spell. It has a very good reputation. The nut is probably larger than the nuts of any of the foregoing varieties. No trees over 5 ft.

As to damage to the heartnut by the butternut curculio, see paragraph in our on this subject.

Prices of all heartnut trees:

Over 5 ft.	\$5.50
4 to 5 ft.	5.00
3 to 4 ft.	4.50
2 to 3 ft.	4.00
Under 2 ft.	3.50

PERSIAN (ENGLISH) WALNUTS.

BROADVIEW- This variety is said to be as good or better than the best of the California nuts. It will apparently stand about -25°F. without serious injury. It was injured considerably by -34°F. on February 16, 1943. It has not fruited for us as yet. We are sold out of this variety for this season. Our grafting percentage of this variety was so poor last Spring that we have only about half enough trees to fill our back orders from last season.

CARPATHIAN D- This is one of the older named Carpathian varieties. It is about as hardy as Broadview according to it's behavior here in February 1943. Our grafts of this variety failed last Spring so we have no trees to offer this season.

Prices of the above varieties of Persian walnut trees;

Over 5 ft.	\$5.50
4 to 5 ft.	5.00
3 to 4 ft.	4.50
2 to 3 ft.	4.00
Under 2 ft.	3.50

Prices of Littlepage, our new Crath Carpathian Variety.

Over 5 ft.	\$7.00
4 to 5 ft.	6.00
3 to 4 ft.	5.00
2 to 3 ft.	4.50
Under 2 ft.	4.00

BLACK WALNUTS.

- ✓ ALLEN- The original tree of this variety grows near Middleville, Mich. 42°45' N. Lat. First prize winner in 1932-33 Michigan contest. Size 34 per pound. Looks like one of the best for northern planting. Has not fruited here as yet. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only two to three foot trees of this variety this season.
- ✓ BENTON- The original tree grows here on Mr. Benton's home farm 41°45' N. Lat. Won second prize in the New York & New England 1934 contest. We had nuts of the 1942 crop rated by Mr. Reed. They rated as follows; number of nuts per pound- 34, percent of kernel- 29.40, percent of quarters- 86.68, size- small, shell thickness- medium, cleavage- very good, plumpness- very good, color- medium, quality- good, flavor- good, rated A-, promising. We personally consider the flavor of Benton to be superior to most other varieties, this was borne out to a considerable extent by the comment recieved from the nut samples we sent out last season. Ripens here in early October. We do not recommend it north of N. Lat. 42° and there at not more than 500 feet above sea level. We can supply nut samples of this variety (See back page). Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 ft.
- ✓ CLARK- The original tree grows near Lamoille, Minn. 44° N. Lat. Won fourth prize in Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest. Size 28 per pound. Looks like another good one for the Far North. It has not fruited here as yet. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 2 to 3 ft.
- ✓ CRESCO- This variety originated at Cresco, Iowa 43°20' N. Lat. It is described as being a very good nut and from it's far northern origin should be a good one for northern planting. It has not fruited here as yet. Size 34 per pound. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 3 to 4 ft.
- ✓ MINTLE- This variety originated near Glenwood, Iowa 41° N. Lat. Size 33 per pound. Considered to be a very good variety. It has not fruited here as yet. Our largest trees of this variety are over 5 ft.
- ✓ ROHWER- This variety originated near Grundy Center, Iowa 42°20' N. Lat. It was awarded second prize in the 1926 Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest. Size 28 per pound. The place of it's origin and the record of

this nut indicates that it is a good one for northern planting.

✓ SNYDER- The original tree grows near Newfield, N. Y. 42°20' N. Lat. It was awarded first prize in the New York & New England contest of 1934. The nut is large, thin shelled and cracks out well. The tree appears to be a heavy bearer every other year, our graft bore a large crop in both 1942 and 1944. Many varieties of black walnuts shed a large proportion of their leaves rather early in the Fall, this detracts from their ornamental value at this time. Snyder does retain it's leaves in the Fall very well, in this respect it is second only to Sparrow, of all the varieties we have on trial.

We sent a sample of the 1942 crop to Mr. Reed for testing. It rated as follows; number of nuts per pound-21, percent kernel- 25.99, percent quarters- 94.90, size- large, shell- thin, cleavage- excellent, plumpness- mostly good, color- dark, quality- good, flavor- good, rated A-, promising. This indicates a very good nut. It ripens here in late September, so should mature it's nuts considerably farther north than we are here. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We consider it one of our best varieties. We can supply sample nut (See back page). We have some very fine trees of this variety in all sizes.

✓ SPARROW- This is our pet variety of black walnut, we consider it as good or possibly better than Thomas as it grows here. The nut is not quite as large as Thomas but percent of kernel is as large or larger. We have had many try the flavor of kernel as compared to Thomas and the verdict has been unanimous in favor of Sparrow. This variety originated near Lomax, Ill. 40°35' N. Lat. In spite of it's rather southern origin, it is well adapted to far northern planting as the tree appears to be perfectly hardy and the nuts ripen as early as Snyder and about two weeks earlier than Thomas. Sparrow retains it's leaves in the Fall better than any other variety we have observed so far, slightly better than Snyder and much better than Thomas and Stambough. The nut appears to be small while on the tree because it has a very thin husk, yet it husks very readily, the husked nuts coming out exceptionally clean. The thin husk discourages the husk maggot, being practically free of this pest while the thicker husked varieties are badly infested. As the nuts ripen they turn a very pretty yellow color.

We sent a sample of the 1942 nut crop to Mr. Reed for testing, it rated as follows; number of nuts per pound- 27, percent of kernel- 29.94, percent quarters- 96.22, size- medium, shell thickness- medium, cleavage- very good, color- bright, quality- rich, flavor- sweet, rated A, very promising.

We can supply a sample nut of this variety (See back page). We have a fine lot of trees of this variety in all sizes.

✓ STAMBOUGH- This variety originated near Galesburg, Ill. 40°8' N. Lat. It was awarded first prize in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1926. The nut is one of the very best, being large, thin shelled, and of excellent cracking quality. Size 25 per pound. Our graft bore a very large crop in 1944, indicating that it will be a good bearer. The nuts ripen late, in fact it has matured it's nuts here in only one year (1944), in the other years the kernels were somewhat shriveled and tasted immature. We are located too far north for this variety, it should not be planted farther north than 41° N. Lat. and there at not more than 500 feet above sea level. farther south it should be one of the best varieties.

We can supply a sample nut of this variety (See back page). We have trees of all sizes in this variety.

✓ STONY BROOK- This variety was discovered by Dr. MacDaniels. We believe that the original tree grows in Ohio. Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 ft.

✓ TASTERITE- The original tree grows near Ithaca, N.Y. 42°25' N. Lat. Nut rather small but said to be of excellent quality. We recommend it quite highly for northern planting. Size- 31 per pound. Ripens here the last of September. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 ft.

✓ THOMAS- This is the oldest and most nearly standard of any of the black walnut varieties. It is the best standard we have by which to measure the other varieties, we have only one variety that we consider to be as good or better (Sparrow). Original tree grows near King of Prussia, Pa. 40°5' N. Lat. Size- 19 per pound.

While our oldest graft of this variety did not mature its nuts here, we have found this to be due to the fact that the tree grows in a wet location, two other grafts have matured their nuts well for two seasons. It ripens a little late here, October 10th in 1944. We can supply a sample nut of this variety. We have a fine lot of trees of this variety in all sizes.

Prices of all black walnut trees.

Over 5 ft.	\$3.50
4 to 5 ft.	3.00
3 to 4 ft.	2.75
2 to 3 ft.	2.50
Under 2 ft.	2.00

HICKORIES.

At present nut growers are almost overwhelmed with a tremendous list of varieties of hickories, of many of which very little is known as to their relative merits.

In a few years a great deal more will be known about these various varieties, as several test orchards are being established in different parts of the country to test them for different latitudes and conditions. We have such an orchard started in which we have more than a hundred named varieties of hickory and hickory hybrids.

At present the best guide available as to the best varieties to plant, is a list prepared by Mr. C. A. Reed, Associate Pomologist, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. Reed is beyond doubt the best authority, at present, on nut varieties. Mr. Reed has listed 14 varieties as the ones he considers best and marks them A, then he has listed 12 more which he considers second best and marks them B. However he states that time may prove some varieties on the B list to be superior to some on the A list, also some not on either list may prove superior to those listed.

Another equally valuable source of such information, especially for the northeast, is a copy of "Arnoldia" written by Dr. L. H. MacDaniels, Head of The Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, Cornell University and printed by the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

- ✓ ANTHONY- Shagbark. This variety originated near Sterling, Ill. and has been grown for many years. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have one and four year old grafts of this variety.
- ✓ BEEMAN- Shagbark. This variety originated near New Preston, Conn. Said to be an annual bearer. So far as we know it has never been entered in any nut contest and is not rated by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ BERGER- Shellbark. Awarded first prize in the miscellaneous hickory class of the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. This variety originated near Cove Gap, Pa. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only three and four year old grafts.
- ✓ DAVIS- Shagbark. This variety originated within five miles of our nursery. First prize winner in the New York & New England contest of 1934. Nut of medium size, very good cracking quality, flavor sweet and rich, a vigorous grower. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Ripens here in late September. We can supply sample nut of this variety (See back page). Only one year grafts available.
- ✓ FOX- Shagbark. First prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. Nut a little larger than Davis. Good cracking quality, flavor very good, tree a vigorous grower. Original tree grows near Fonda, N. Y. Ripens here in mid September.

The nuts of this variety have been rather disappointing as grown on our graft here. We are conducting a test to try and determine if there is a bud variation in this variety to account for the excellent nuts that won first prize in the above contest and the poorer nuts as produced by grafts from this tree. In spite of the above facts, this is a good variety for the Far North as it ripens early and is a good nut. We can supply a sample nut of Fox (See back page). We have only two and three year old grafts.
- ✓ GLOVER- Shagbark. An old variety which has stood the test of time. It originated near Shelton, Conn. The nuts we have seen of this variety are among the best hickory nuts we have seen. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only one year old grafts.
- ✓ GOMEEN- Shagbark. Second prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. Originates near Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ HAGEN- Shagbark. This is probably an Iowa nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only one year old grafts.
- ✓ HAND- Shagbark. This is probably an Iowa nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only two and four year old grafts.

- ✓ HEIBNER- Shagbark. This variety originates near Danville, Iowa. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ JOLLIFFE- Shagbark. This appears to be a very good variety but it originates near Uffington, W. Va. so we do not recommend it for northern planting until it has borne here proving that it is early enough for the North. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 4yr grafts.
- ✓ KENTUCKY- Shagbark. This variety originates near East View, Ky. We have seen nuts of Kentucky grown near Ithaca, N. Y. they were well matured and rated very high by Dr. MacDaniels. The only criticism being that the shell is a little too thin for best cleavage, tending to crush, also the kernel tends to cling slightly to the shell. We now recommend this variety for northern planting. We have only three and four year old grafts.
- ✓ KIRTLAND- Shagbark. This is one of the older varieties and thus has stood the test of time. Originates near Yalesville, Conn. Ripens here in late September. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ MILLER- Shagbark. Originates near North Branch, Mich. Rated B by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ MINNIE- Shagbark. Our graft of this variety bore in 1942 and the nuts rated very well when tested by Mr. Reed. Ripens here soon after the middle of September. We recommend it highly for northern planting. We have only two year old grafts.
- ✓ MURDOCK- Shagbark. Of far northern origin, original tree grows on the shore of Lake Champlain in northern New York. Cracking quality good, flavor very best, size of nut about medium. This variety should succeed to the far northern limits of the shagbark. We have only one year old grafts.
- ✓ NEILSON- Shagbark. This variety originated in Ontario, Canada. It is considered to be one of the best. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only two year old grafts.
- ✓ STRATFORD- Shagbark. We do not know where this variety originates. Ripens here in late September. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have one and four year old grafts.
- ✓ SWAIM- Shagbark. This variety originates near South Bend, Indiana. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have only four year old grafts.
- ✓ TAYLOR- Shagbark. This variety originates near Stamford, Conn. This is one of the older varieties thus has stood the test of time. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only one year old grafts.
- ✓ WATSON- Shagbark. Originates near Portsmouth, N. H. Awarded seventh prize in the New York & New England contest of 1934. Should be a good variety for far northern planting. We have only 4yr old grafts.
- ✓ WESCHKE- Shagbark. This variety originates in Iowa and is very highly recommended by Mr. Carl Weschke of St. Paul, Minn. So must be well adapted to the North. We have only four year old grafts.

✓ WHITNEY- Shagbark. First prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. This variety originates near Bersa, Ohio. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only one and two year old grafts.

✓ WILCOX- Shagbark. Our pet hickory to date. While the nut is only medium in size it cracks almost perfectly, ripens early, fine flavor and appears to be a good bearer bi-annually. Second prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. Originates near Geneva, Ohio. Samples of the 1942 crop were rated high by both Mr. Reed and Dr. MacDaniels. It ripens at the same time as Fox, middle of September here. We had a chance to compare it with nuts of Glover last Winter, while smaller it cracked better and we thought it as good or better, this was borne out by the response from the nut samples we sent out last year. We have only one and two year old grafts.

HICANS.

Hicans are hybrids of other species of hickory crossed with pecans. They make pretty trees and thus have a considerable ornamental value. But in so far as the nuts are concerned the hicans are not in too high esteem by those who know them best. Our grafts in our test orchard have not borne as yet so we can give no first hand information. But as we have had a number of requests for hicans, we thought it best to start a few. So we grafted some trees to each of several of the leading varieties. We had rather hard luck with them so have only a few trees of DesMoines and Burlington. Only one year old grafts.

Prices of all hickories, including hicans.

No. 1 trees \$4.00 each. No. 2 trees \$3.00 each.

No. 1 trees are those that have made a good growth. No. 2 trees are those that have not grown quite so well. Many times the one year old grafts that have not grown quite so well the first year do make excellent growth the second year. But with the older grafts, if they are still No. 2 trees after two or more years, they will probably always be slow growing trees.

We charge the same for our hickory grafts regardless of age. This is because we do not consider the older grafts worth any more than the one year old grafts. Many nurseries charge fancy prices for their left overs of previous years. The older grafts may in some instances grow into a large tree sooner and may bear sooner, but in general the larger tree suffers a greater set back when transplanted and the smaller often catches up with it in size.

NUT SAMPLES.

We received very gratifying results from the nut samples we sent out last season. We intend to enlarge on this service just as rapidly as we can. This season we have nuts of only a very few varieties available for sending out and these are all two year old nuts. We charge 10¢ per sample (each variety) and will send a credit slip redeemable at full value on your first order for trees. For the varieties we can send, look under the description of each variety.